

and was officially endorsed by the Harnett County Schools as well as the sheriff's office.

- Collaboration – The sheriff initiated the Harnett County gang coalition. This coalition is comprised of representatives from local police municipalities (Dunn, Erwin, Lillington, Coats, and Angier), Harnett County DJJDP, NC DOC: Probation and Parole, Harnett County Schools, Harnett County Joblinks, Harnett County Youth Services, Harnett County Board of Commissioners, DSS, District Attorney's Office, Alcohol and Drug Services, Re-Entry, NC Cooperative Extension and area churches. The Coalition then formed a steering committee consistent with the Federal OJJDP's Comprehensive Gang Model.
- *Intelligence gathering* – A gang data base has been started to collect intelligence from citizens, deputies, detention and other sources.

Sheriff Larry Rollins observed:

*“Gang related issues have been on the rise in Harnett County and our region for several years. Thanks to a grant from the General Assembly via the Governors Crime Commission, we were able to position one detective as our gang specialist and begin a countywide anti-gang initiative. We have conducted much training throughout the Office to familiarize all our staff with gang identifiers and gang reporting techniques. We also have mutual cooperative agreements with all our municipalities and several surrounding counties to assist each other as gang related issues arise. With this grant we developed the Harnett County Gang Coalition to make a stand and make a*